

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 6, 2004. Claims 1 to 5, 7 to 20, 22 to 35, 37 to 50 and 52 to 60 remain in the application, with Claims 6, 21, 36 and 51 having been canceled. Claims 1, 8, 16, 23, 31, 38, 46 and 53 are the independent claims herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 60 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,089,765 (Mori). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to reprinting of print data by a print server. According to one aspect of the invention, both device-independent-format data and device-dependent-format data are stored in the server. If a reprint of the data is to occur, a determination is made whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output designation for reprint and a printer driver name for an original designation for output. If the attributes are the same, then the device-dependent-format data is output to the exterior (e.g., directly to the printing apparatus), but if the attributes are different, then the device-independent-format data is output to the exterior (e.g., back to the information processing apparatus). Thus, depending on the destination of the reprint, the print server can simply output data already formatted for the printer (i.e., device-dependent-format data) directly to the printer, or if a different printer is designated for the reprinting, the print server can output non-printer ready formatted data (i.e., device-independent-format data) back to the information processing apparatus without the need for the information processing apparatus to execute an application for the reprinting.

With specific reference to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is a print server apparatus capable of receiving a print job to be printed from an information processing apparatus through a network, said printer server apparatus comprising reservation job management means for storing, in a memory, both device-independent-format data and device-dependent-format data as reservation job data received from the information processing apparatus, and managing the reservation job data even after print data is output to a printing apparatus, determination means for determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output designation for reprint and a printer driver name for the reservation job data managed by said reservation job management means; and output control means for outputting the device-independent-format data to the exterior, if said determination means determines that the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the exterior, if said determination means determines that the attributes are the same.

Amended independent Claims 16, 31 and 46 are method, computer medium and computer program claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 16, 31 and 46. More particularly, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of storing both device-independent-format data and device-dependent-format data, determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output designation for reprint and a printer driver name for the reservation job data managed by said reservation job management means, and outputting the device-independent-format data to the exterior, if it is determined that the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the exterior, if it is determined that the attributes are the same.

Mori is merely seen to disclose a print system in which a computer retransmits print data stored in the computer, or regenerated in the computer, to a printer in response to a retransmission request from the printer. However, the only data that appears to be stored in Mori is device-dependent-formatted data and device-independent-formatted data is not believed to be stored. Moreover, Mori is directed to reprinting to the same printer and therefore, is not seen to determine whether attributes are the same based on a printer driver's name for which the data is to be printed. Accordingly, amended independent Claims 1, 16, 31 and 46, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are not believed to be anticipated by Mori.

In a related aspect of the invention, a list of print jobs to be reprinted after print data is output to a printing apparatus is displayed and a user selects one print job from the list. The selected print job is judged to determine a printing apparatus to which the print job is to be output. If the judged printing apparatus is different from a printing apparatus of an original output destination, then device-independent-format data is obtained and device-dependent-format data is generated using another printer driver.

With specific reference to the claims, amended independent Claim 8 is an information processing apparatus for generating print data to be printed by a printing apparatus through a network, the information processing apparatus comprising data generation means for generating a device-dependent-form data to be printed by the printing apparatus using a printer driver, obtaining means for obtaining device-independent-format data, display means for displaying a list of print jobs to be reprinted after print data is output to the printing apparatus, first judgement means for judging one print job selected by a user from among the print jobs displayed by the display means, and second judgement means for judging a printing apparatus to which the print job judged by the first judgement

means is to be output, wherein the data generation means receives the device-independent-format data obtained by the obtaining means and generates the device-dependent-format data using another printer driver, if the printing apparatus judged by the second judgement means is different from the printing apparatus of an original output destination.

Amended independent Claims 23, 38 and 53 are method, computer medium and computer program claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 8.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 8, 23, 38 and 53. More particularly, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of displaying a list of print jobs to be reprinted after print data is output to a printing apparatus, judging one print job selected by a user from among the displayed print jobs, judging a printing apparatus to which the judged print job is to be output, and generating device-dependent-format data from received device-independent-format data using another printer driver, if the judged printing apparatus is different from a printing apparatus of an original output destination.

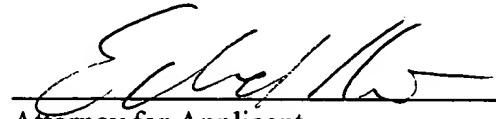
As stated above, Mori is merely seen to disclose reprinting data to the same printer. Accordingly, Mori is not seen to perform the claimed judging process, nor is it seen to generate the data using a another printer driver if the printing apparatus is different from an original. Moreover, Mori is not seen to disclose or to suggest displaying a list of print jobs to be reprinted, and selecting one print job from among the list. Accordingly, Mori is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 8, 23, 38 and 53.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of Claims 1 to 5, 7 to 20, 22 to 35, 37 to 50 and 52 to 60 are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'E. Kmett', is written over a horizontal line.

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